

Date: May 16, 2016

To: District Administrators, CESA Administrators, and School Officials

From: Tammy G. Huth, Director
Teacher Education, Professional Development and Licensing

Subject: 2016-17 Grant Funds Available for Peer Review and Mentoring

Competitive state funds are available to develop a comprehensive peer review and mentoring program for initial and professional educators. Consortia of two (2) or more school districts, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies (CESAs), or combination thereof are eligible to apply. The period of the grant will be July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Applications must be received by DPI **no later than the close of business June 30, 2016**. Applications will be reviewed by teams of educators and DPI employees. Each grant has a maximum award limit of \$25,000. DPI expects to notify award recipients in July of 2016.

An application shall include all of the following program components: A) an ongoing orientation for initial educators that is collaboratively developed and delivered by administrators, teachers, support staff and parents; B) seminars (or learning opportunities) that meet the needs and concerns of the initial educator and reflect the Wisconsin standards for teacher development and licensure; C) a mentor for all initial educators; D) the development of a professional development plan for the initial educator which includes a list of activities, timelines for achievement, and assessments based on the teacher standards. Priority will be given to proposals which have a strong focus to:

- Provide peer review and mentoring support to inexperienced (first three [3] years of teaching) initial educators in one or more of the nine districts identified in Wisconsin's Equitable Access Plan – Beloit, Green Bay, Janesville, Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha, and West Allis-West Milwaukee;
- Provide mentoring support to unqualified (emergency license/permit holders) who are serving as teachers of record and working toward full licensure;
- Provide support, training, and professional development for mentors of initial educators to learn and complete the Professional Development Plan (PDP) process;
- Provide support to educators in utilizing the results of Educator Effectiveness Plans (EEP) to inform (align) the development of PDP and vice versa;
- Provide training to mentors to provide support and assistance to initial educators through confidential formative assessment;
- Provide training for administrators at the professional educator level to serve as mentors for initial educator administrators;
- Provide training for pupil service professionals at the professional educator level to serve as mentors for initial educator pupil service professionals;
- An identified peer review and mentoring need that is demonstrated through student and/or staff data.

The application and directions are both available at dpi.wi.gov/tepd/programs/prmg. Completed applications should be mailed to: Jacob Hollnagel, Educator Effectiveness, WI Dept. of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841, or sent electronically to jacob.hollnagel@dpi.wi.gov. Please address questions to Jake Hollnagel at 608.266.5195.